

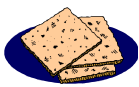


The Historian

The Newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society

Serving Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes, Lantana, Hypoluxo, the Village of Golf and all areas of West Boynton, in addition to supporting the preservation of the history of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida as a whole.

2014 Number 4



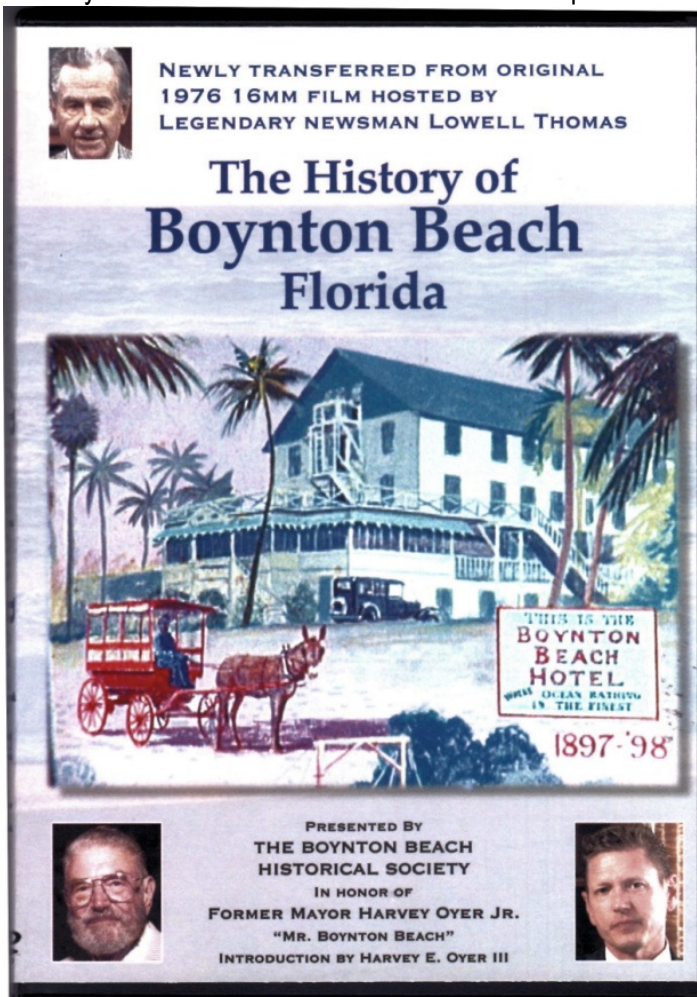
April 2014

The HISTORY of BOYNTON BEACH

A Remastered Version of the 1976 Film

In the mid-1970s the late Jim Warnke, a former Mayor of Boynton Beach and an active member of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, was instrumental in bringing about a 30 minute colored film version on the City's history. Jim authored the script, secured funding from the City of Boynton Beach and the Historical Society, and persuaded documentary film celebrity newsman Lowell Thomas to narrate the production in honor of America's Bicentennial celebration in 1976.

In 2010, to honor the memory of their father Harvey E. Oyer, Jr., the Oyer children asked that people make contributions to the Boynton Beach Historical Society for a project honoring Harvey's love of history and his commitment to the City of Boynton Beach. The Board of Directors of the Historical Society decided to take steps to preserve the Warnke/Thomas film, which was slowly degrading, by using the Oyer Memorial Fund. The product of this undertaking will be shown and discussed at the Society's meeting on April 21 at the City Library. A new introduction and conclusion feature Harvey E. Oyer, III and Jim Warnke's son, Tom Warnke.



WHAT: DVD "The History of Boynton Beach Florida" followed by Discussion of the Original plus the new Additions

WHEN: Monday, April 21, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Boynton Beach City Library
208 Seacrest Boulevard
Program Room

ALL PROGRAMS OF THE BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS--2013-14

OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Janet DeVries
1 st Vice President, Programs	Ginger Pedersen
2 nd Vice President, Membership	Voncile Smith
Recording Secretary	Diana Dennis
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts
Treasurer	Frances Tuite McKeral

Editor, <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Smith
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster	Janet DeVries
Facebook Administrator/Webmaster	Ginger Pedersen

DIRECTORS [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2014	Steven Anton
2014	Barbara Ready
2015	Sheila Rousseau Taylor
2015	Linda Stabile
2016	Tim Bednarz
2016	Judith Merkel Howard

TRUSTEES [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2014	Randall Gill
2014	Wendy Franklin
2015	Christian Oyer Macoviak
2015	Audrey Gerger
2016	Virginia Farace
2016	Nancy Hood McNamee

Our website is www.boyntonhistory.org. The e-mail address is boyntonhistory@gmail.com

Please mail inquiries or information to our local address P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425. Voncile can be reached at 561-734-5653. Boynton Beach Historical Society number is 561-327-4690.

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach
www.twitter.com/@boyntonhistory

The Historian is mailed eight times a year—September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May—to all members. No copies are produced in December, June, July and August. Copies from past years are posted on the website.

LIFE MEMBERS

Randall Gill
Alexander "Sandy" Simon
Curtis and Nain Weaver

NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR BBHSOCIETY

Do you want to reach the Boynton Beach Historical Society by telephone? Notice that we have a new number listed above. The Society has entered the 21st century with our "virtual" phone service through Skype technology. Our phone number is 561-327-4690, which reaches our "phone in the cloud." Callers hear a greeting and are asked to leave a message. Phone calls are returned in the evening.

2014 MEMBERS

The following are memberships paid since the March issue of *The Historian*:

PATRON:

Michael and Linda M. Callaway
Dorian Beck Trauger

INDIVIDUAL:

Warren Adams
Nancy Horan
Sandra McGregor
Rosemary Mouring
Gerald Murray
Eleanor Murray Sala
Charles Senior
Katherine Foy Thompson
Randy K. Weeks
Marion Weaver Wester

Please extend a special welcome greeting to Nancy Horan, our newest member!

IN MEMORIAM

BILLY DUBOIS – Billy DuBois and his wife Barbara have been members of the Boynton Beach Historical Society for many years. We were saddened by his sudden passing in March, 2014 just as we were mailing out the March issue of *The Historian*. Billy was a farm boy, and he and his family ran DuBois Farms for many years.



The Dubois family in 1973—from left: William, Jr. [Billy], Bob, Wayne, and William, Sr.

We extend our condolences and best wishes to Barbara and all the members of the DuBois family.

FILM ON INLET MARKER DEDICATION

If you missed the dedication of the historic marker at the South Lake Worth [Boynton] Inlet, watch it on film on Channel 20. Check with the station to learn when it is being shown.

HISTORY OF BOYNTON BEACH

By Juanita Hathcock

[This is the fourth and last installment of a series of articles that Juanita wrote in 1946 while at the age of 17 she was a junior at Boynton High School. This segment was published in *The Boynton Beach News* April 31, 1946.]

"Fishing, Boynton Casino, Rainbow Tropical Gardens, Schools and Churches:

"South Lake Worth Inlet, better known as Boynton Inlet, connects Lake Worth with the Atlantic Ocean, bringing deep sea fishing in the Gulf Stream to within a few minutes from town.

"Season after Season enthusiastic followers of Isaac Walton come to Boynton Beach to enjoy one of the most popular sports in the world.

"The captains of cabin cruisers which dock at South Lake Worth Inlet—more commonly called Boynton Inlet—have many interesting records of Sail, Amberjacks, Kings and Pompano of unusual size and weight, hooked after fierce, exciting battles.

"There is no more thrilling experience for a fisherman than hooking a huge Sail or Marlin.

"An unforgettable picture is that of a hooked Sail leaping out of the sunlit sea, a perfect arch of flashing blue and silver, dancing on his tail in an effort to shake himself free, challenging the fisherman to hold him on the hook.

"The size of the Sailfish varies from summer to winter. During the summer the Sail's average size is seven feet, four inches. Summer is spawning season. The weather is warmer and the Sailfish bite better. At this season Sailfish are scattered—in the winter the Sailfish is smaller, the average size being six feet ten inches. It is during the winter season that Sailfish move in schools.

"The spawning grounds of Sailfish have never been definitely located. There have been indications that the Sailfish moves northward to spawn as baby Sails have been caught off Cape May, New Jersey and along the coast of Virginia.

"The Boynton Beach Casino is our own bathing beach. Here, after a frolic in the colorful sea, you may enjoy showers, the bath houses, the pavilion, all without charge. Parking space for cars is for bathers' convenience.

"Boynton Beach is renowned for its many large nurseries where are grown the rare and interesting tropical trees, shrubs and flowers with which many showplaces are landscaped.

"The famous Rainbow Gardens are at Boynton Beach on the shore of lovely Lake Worth.

"These Tropical Gardens with hints of English, Dutch, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese are indescribably lovely.

"In the Boynton Beach Schools, grades one through twelve have Superior State Recognition. Accreditation [sic] is with the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

"The well-equipped buildings are located on attractively landscaped grounds. Steam heat is available.

"All teachers have had at least four years of college training. Besides the usual curriculum courses, the school possesses exceptionally fine Home Economics, Manual Training and Commercial Departments.

"The school library numbers over 3,000 carefully selected books.

"There is a well-managed school cafeteria and an active Parent-Teacher Association.

"Mrs. C. W. Pierce is Postmistress of the post office at present, succeeding Mr. Pierce, after his death four years ago, who had been Postmaster almost continuously for thirty years.

"There are two churches in Boynton Beach: The Methodist and Baptist.

"The Methodist Church was the first organized. Their first building was located on the plot of land where the Standard Service Station now stands.

"In the year 1925 they moved to the land where they are now located.

"The Baptist was organized in 1925 and their first meeting was held in the Boynton Beach Lumber Company building, owned then by J.P. Bowen. The building isn't standing now.

"Their building is now located on Lake Street.

THE END"

Boynton High School

Boynton Beach, Florida
NINETEENTH ANNUAL
COMMENCEMENT

High School Auditorium
Wednesday, May 29, 1946
8:00 p.m.

BOARD OF PUBLIC
INSTRUCTION

Mr. J. C. Engram, Chairman
Mr. George W. Slaton
Mr. Carmen Salvatore

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC
INSTRUCTION

Dr. John I. Leonard

SCHOOL TRUSTEES, DISTRICT
FIVE

Mr. Albert McGregor, Chairman
Mr. G. C. Bell
Mr. Lloyd Benson

PROGRAM

Processional of Seniors, Miss
Catherine Stimson, "March of the
Priests" from Athalia—Mendels-
sohn.

Invocation, The Reverend F. W.
Brocksmith.

Salutatorian — "Welcome", Jean-
nette Lewerenz.

Commencement Address, The
Reverend H. Melton Ware.

Vocal selections, Mrs. Robert
Clarke, accompanied by Mrs. Paul
Mercer.

Valedictory, Judith Johnston.

Piano solo, "The Black Hawk
Waltz", Beryl M. Woolbright, Jr.

Presentation of awards and grad-
uating class, Mr. C. M. Redding,
Principal.

Presentation of diplomas, Dr.
John I. Leonard

Recessional of graduates, Miss
Catherine Stimson, "Triumphal
March" from Aida—Verdi.

This commencement report appeared in the May 31, 1946 issue of *The Boynton Beach News* that contained Juanita Hathcock's last installment on the "History of Boynton Beach." Boynton High School would hold only three more commencements before Boynton students, beginning in fall, 1949, were sent to Seacrest High School [now Atlantic High School] in Delray Beach to complete their programs



August, 1958 Board of Directors of the Boynton Beach State Bank [previously named First Bank of Boynton Beach, First Bank and Trust of Palm Beach County, Florida Coast Bank, Barnett Bank No. 30]. From left—J.W. “Bill” Pipes, Don Burke, John W. Wellbrock, Charles Senior, Harry Geller, Harold Shaw, Paul Mercer, C. Stanley Weaver, Walter Dutch, and James Sottile, Jr. [Photo courtesy Christine Weaver Temenyi]

WHAT'S IN A NAME? BOYNTON'S STREETS, PARKS AND CITY SITES

Some of the places in Boynton Beach which were named after people who lived in the area are listed below.

Barton Cemetery originally known as Cherry Hill, was established in 1926 east of what is now Interstate 95 and south of the Boynton Canal (now C. Stanley Weaver Canal). At one time it was the only black cemetery in Boynton. It fell into disuse and was forgotten by almost everyone. Residents Mary and William Barton did not forget, however. For years they visited it and maintained the grave of their son Alton who is buried there. Eventually the cemetery took on their name.

After the recent establishment by the City of the Historic Preservation Board, the Board members have recognized the historic significance of this cemetery and have attempted to learn more about the graves there. A recent team from Florida Atlantic University made an attempt to identify grave sites through new technology.

Sara Sims Cemetery (now Sara Sims Park) is close to Martin Luther King and Seacrest Boulevards and was established in 1958. Sara Sims was from an old black family, and was very well liked in the black community. She was recognized as a leader

and respected for her religious faith. She appeared often at City Hall in the 1940s to speak on behalf of the community.

Neither Barton nor Sara Sims Cemeteries have been used for burials in recent years,

Knuth Road is the first through street west of Congress Avenue and runs from Woolbright Road northward past Boynton Beach Boulevard. Charles and Alice Knuth came to the area in 1915. They owned Few Acres Dairy off Old Boynton Road in the 1920s. Their son Orville worked with his father there until the 1930s, then he moved the dairy to the vicinity of the current Knuth Road. Charles was a mayor in the 1920s. Newcomers to the area frequently mispronounce the name, saying “Nuth Road.” The K is pronounced in a first syllable with the accent falling on the second syllable, “Ka-nuth’ Road.”

Lawrence Road is named after the Lawrence family. Whether it was named for Hy Lawrence who was a Sheriff in the 1930s or Red Lawrence, a deputy, is debatable. Red Lawrence owned a ranch in the area around what is now Lawrence Road and at the time Red had a shell rock road that led into his property. Although streets are sometimes named after Sheriffs, more commonly they are derived from property owners where the road goes through.

[Continued on page 5]

C. Stanley Weaver Canal comprises part of the Boynton Canal and was named to honor the many years of service of Stanley Weaver and his father, M.A., on the Board of the Lake Worth Drainage District. The Weavers moved to Boynton in 1910. The family operated a dairy at Military Trail and Old Boynton Road until 1973 on land that is now occupied by the Cypress Country Club. The father, M. A., served as Mayor of Boynton in the 1930s and Stanley was Mayor in 1955.

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Member's

Name _____

2nd Member's Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: INDIVIDUAL (\$25.00) _____
 FAMILY (\$35.00) _____
 PATRON (\$50.00) _____
 CORPORATE (\$100 or more) _____
 STUDENT (\$10.00) _____
 LIFE (\$500.00) one time
 payment only.

Complete this form and mail it with a check for the appropriate amount to Boynton Beach Historical Society, P. O. Box 12, Boynton Beach FL 33425-0012

We are proud to serve Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Lantana, Hypoluxo, Briny Breezes and all areas west of Boynton Beach to U.S. Hwy 441, and on occasion, greater :Palm Beach County.

The Historian

Boynton Beach Historical Society
Post Office Box 12
Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012



Celebrating at the Boynton Woman's Club, the 1985 all-years Class Reunion of Boynton High School. From left: Marcus Weaver, Jackie Tattersall, Erna Weaver, Lorene Cunningham, Stanley Weaver and Bob White [courtesy Christine Terneny]